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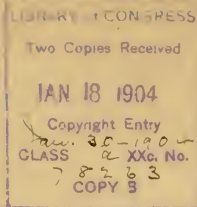
INDIANA

JACOB PIATT DUNN

Secretary of the Indiana
Historical Society



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UNITED STATES SENATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

JANUARY 9, 1903.

DR. FREDERICK C. BEACH,

Editor Scientific American.

258 and 260 Fifth Ave., New York City.

MY DEAR SIR :—I am advised of your plan with respect to the publication of the Encyclopædia Americana. and that it is your intention to do entire justice to the United States. The progress and development of the United States in all avenues of human activity are such that there is great need of a publication which will bring into compact and comprehensive form information which is daily needed by the statesman, lawyer, editor, business man and others.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,

U. S. Senator.

INDIANA

("The Hoosier State.")

A NORTH Central State of the United States (No. 19 in order of admission) bounded north by Michigan, south by Kentucky, east by Ohio, west by Illinois; extreme length 276 miles, extreme breadth 177 miles; area (No. 34 in U. S.) 36,350 square miles (440 water); pop. 1900 (No. 8 in U. S.) 2,516,462, or 70.1 to the square mile. (No. 11 in density). The State boundary in Lake Michigan is an east and west line 10 miles north of the extreme southern point of the lake. The Ohio River runs along the southern boundary, but, by a provision of the Virginia cession of northwest territory, Indiana extends only to low-water mark on the north bank of the Ohio. In consequence all islands in the Ohio belong to Kentucky, the Supreme Court having recently held this as to Green River Island (*Indiana v. Kentucky*, 136 U. S.) which, although an island at the time of the cession, became connected with the Indiana shore by alluvial depos-

its, and had been governed and taxed as part of Indiana for many years.

The surface of the State is comparatively level, the highest point, in Randolph County, in the centre

Topography. of the eastern tier of counties, being estimated at 1,285 feet above sea-level, and the lowest, at the southwest corner of the State being 313 feet above sea-level. The Ohio at the southeast corner of the State is 436 feet above sea-level, and Lake Michigan at the northwest corner is 585 feet above sea-level. From the tableland of the east central part of the State, and western Ohio, radiate low watersheds, separating the drainage basins of Indiana. The northern part of the State is quite flat, the central part slightly rolling, and the southern part rather hilly on account of the valleys cut out by water. There are no mountains, and no large lakes, but there are hundreds of small lakes, chiefly in the northern part of the State.

The southern parts of the State are drained to the Ohio River by the White-

water and smaller tributaries. The central part of the State—about four fifths of its area—is drained by

River Systems. the Wabash and its tributaries, the most important of which are the White, Tippecanoe, Eel, Salamonie and Mississinewa rivers, and Wild Cat Creek. The northeastern corner of the State is drained by the St. Joseph's and St. Mary's rivers; these unite at Ft. Wayne to form the Maumee, which flows into Lake Erie. The extreme northern part of the State is drained by another St. Joseph's, the Calumet, and smaller streams, into Lake Michigan. A part of the northwestern section is drained by the Kankakee and its tributaries to the Illinois River. The Wabash is navigated to a limited extent, by small boats, as high as Terre Haute, and also the lower part of White River. The remaining streams are not navigable.

The climate of Indiana is mild, ranging from an average of 31° Fahrenheit in the winter months to an average of 76° in summer. The mean temperature is 53° . The average annual rainfall is 43

inches, that in the southern part of the State being slightly in excess of that in the northern part. Serious

Climate. ous droughts and destructive storms are rare. In

earlier years parts of the State were malarial, but with the clearing of the forests and the drainage of lands this condition has almost wholly disappeared.

The earliest geological formation that outcrops in Indiana is the Hudson and

Trenton limestone, of the

Geology. Silurian Age, which appears in the southeastern corner of

the State, throughout the Whitewater valley and the adjacent region. West

of this is a belt of Niagara limestone, which broadens at the north and extends entirely across the State, covering

all of a dozen counties and large parts of as many more. On the west of

this, and also extending to the State line on the north, are belts of Hamilton lime-

stone and sandstone of the Devonian Age. The remainder of the State—the south-

western corner and a broad belt to the north reaching beyond the Wabash—is of

the subcarboniferous and carboniferous formations. The northern and central parts of the State are covered by glacial drift, which in some regions is of a depth of 400 feet.

The soil of the State varies in character, but for the most part is fertile.

**Soils,
Agriculture
and Forests.**

Originally the southern part of the State, and as far north as the Wabash, was covered with a very heavy growth of forest, mostly of hard-wood trees. North of this were low prairies interspersed with sand ridges and dotted with hundreds of small lakes. This region is now found very productive of cucumbers, melons and small fruits in the sandy parts. The richest lands are the alluvial valleys of the streams and the drained prairies. The forests have so far disappeared that the State is now encouraging tree planting. Agriculture is the chief industry of the State, the value of farm products in 1899 being reported at \$204,450,196. The chief agricultural products were corn, 178,967,070 bushels, wheat 34,986,280 bushels, oats 34,565,070 bushels, potatoes

6,209,080 bushels, hay 3,470,378 tons. The value of animal products was \$81,947,922, of forest products \$5,235,459, of orchard products \$3,166,338, of dairy products \$15,739,594. The value of the poultry raised in 1899 was \$8,172,993, and of the eggs produced \$7,441,944.

About one fifth of the surface of Indiana is underlaid by coal, workable veins having been found in 19 counties. There are at least 7 distinct veins of workable thickness, varying from 3 to 11 feet. The coals of the State are of two classes—caking or bituminous, and non caking or block coal. The latter can be burned in blast furnaces without coking. The production in 1901 was 7,019,203 tons, valued at \$7,370,163, the State ranking sixth in the Union as to quantity and seventh as to value of the product. The number of people employed in coal mining was 12,968. The mineral product second in value was petroleum, the production of which is a comparatively new industry. In 1901 the oil product of the State was 5,749,975 barrels, valued at

**Minerals and
Mining
Industries.**

\$4,795,312. This was largely increased—over one third—in 1902. Next in value of the mineral products of the State is building-stone, of which the chief varieties are the oolitic limestone, the blue Devonian limestone, the gray Niagara limestone, and sandstone. The oolitic, so called because composed of minute fossil shells resembling a mass of fish eggs, has become celebrated throughout the United States on account of its superior qualities. In 1901 Indiana was first in rank in the Union in the production of limestone for building purposes, and fifth in rank as to building stone of all kinds, the product being valued at \$3,028,145. There is also a large production of cement and lime. Good clay is abundant throughout the State, and brick and tile making are extensive industries. Kaolin and glass sand are also found in quantity in several counties, and are profitably mined. Natural gas has been found, by sinking wells, throughout a large part of the State. The supply at one time reached a daily flow of 900,000,000 cubic feet. It served to draw many manufac-

tories to the State, but the pressure is now decreasing. In many places its cessation has been followed by a flow of petroleum. Many other minerals have been found in Indiana, but not in quantities of commercial importance.

The manufactures of Indiana are chiefly a development of the past 30 years. In

the earlier period manufacturing was confined almost wholly to supplies for domestic consumption, and was chiefly conducted at the homes of the people. In 1900 there were reported 18,015 manufacturing establishments in the State, employing 155,956 wage-earners, and producing goods to the value of \$378,120,140. The leading classes of manufactures, with the value of products in 1900 and in 1890, are as follows:

	1900	1890
Slaughtering and meat packing.	\$43,862,273	\$27,913,840
Flour and grist mills.	30,150,766	31,239,627
Distilleries.	22,738,106	9,677,973
Lumber and wood manufactories.	34,471,902	32,725,647
Iron and steel (including foundries).	36,566,527	14,285,259
Glass and glassware.	14,757,883	2,995,409
Carriages and wagons, and materials.	15,891,820	10,531,683
Railroad cars.	19,248,999	14,362,711
Agricultural implements.	6,415,081	5,756,131
Textiles and clothing.	8,618,360	7,736,890
Clay products.	4,222,529	3,142,454

It is probable that this rate of increase will not be continued in the next decade, partly because of the decrease of natural gas, partly because of abandonment of plants under trust control, and partly for other reasons. The production of lumber in the State was almost stationary in the past decade, and will probably decrease in this on account of decreasing forest supplies.

About one tenth of the people of Indiana (in occupations) are engaged in commerce and transportation. The navigation of the State is limited, being confined to the Ohio River on the south, with the lower Wabash and a small part of the White River, and Lake Michigan on the northwest. The canals of the State are practically abandoned except for water-power. The railroads furnish the chief means of transportation. Commerce is chiefly domestic, but both exportation and importation are steadily increasing.

Indiana has no fisheries of commercial importance, though it has waters that

might be made valuable. Recently laws have been passed for the protection of fish, and some interest is being shown in their propagation.

The railroad mileage of Indiana, in 1902, was 6,651 miles, exclusive of second main and side tracks. In 1850 it was 228 miles; in 1880, 4,320. Railroad lines extend through all but 3 counties in the State. The chief railroad centre is Indianapolis, from which 14 lines radiate. These are connected outside of the city by a belt railway. The valuation of railroad property for taxation in 1902 was \$162,797,978. There are street railways in all of the cities and larger towns, the total aggregating 168 miles. In 1899 there began an extraordinary development of electric interurban lines. By the close of 1902 about 400 miles of these were in operation, and 500 miles were under construction, while new lines aggregating over 1,000 miles were projected. These lines have made a material change in the transportation of both passengers and

freight, and will apparently furnish large competition with the steam railroads. One of these lines, operating between Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio, has added sleeping cars to its equipment.

The assessed valuation of the State in 1901 was \$1,397,981,497, from which deductions for mortgage ex-

State Finances. emption were made amounting to \$35,169,250. Individuals are permitted to deduct *bona fide* mortgage indebtedness from their schedules to the amount of \$700. The total number of polls was 436,522. The State tax levy for general State government was 9 cents on \$100, and 50 cents poll; for the benevolent institutions 5 cents; for sinking fund 3 cents; for State tuition—which is distributed to the school districts for support of the common schools—11 cents and 50 cents poll; for State institutions of higher education $1\frac{2}{3}$ cents; making a total State levy of $29\frac{2}{3}$ cents and \$1 poll. The reduction of the State debt was begun in 1889, when it amounted to over \$10,000,000. On Oct. 31, 1902, it had been reduced to

\$2,887,615.12, on which the annual interest charge was \$101,565.

In 1902 there were 137 national banks with \$16,618,552 capital, \$4,789,956 surplus, \$71,533,942 deposits, and

Banks. \$7,210,780 outstanding circulation; 113 State banks with \$4,884,490 capital, \$915,413 surplus, and \$24,240,334 deposits; 5 savings banks, with \$7,812,157 of deposits; 37 trust companies transacting bank business, with \$4,392,500 capital, \$465,947 surplus, and \$12,378,348 of deposits, and 203 private banks, which are not required to make returns by the State. Of these last named, however, 68 made returns to the comptroller of the currency, showing \$9,671,733 deposits. The only clearing-house organization in the State is at Indianapolis, and the volume of clearings in 1902 was \$270,409,456.

Indiana has always given much attention to education and especially since the adoption of the present school

Education. law in 1852. At that time there was created a public school fund, the interest on which was to be distributed to the various school dis-

tricts. The principal factor in this was the profits which the State had derived from the State Bank of Indiana, amounting to about \$3,500,000, to which was added \$573,000 of the surplus revenue distributed by Congress in 1836, and several smaller funds. To this additions have been made by fines and other public receipts, until in 1902 the Common School fund amounted to \$7,978,580.68, to which is to be added the Congressional Township fund, derived from the sale of school lands donated by the national government, amounting to \$2,465,304.64. This total fund of \$10,443,885.32 is held by the several counties and the interest on it is applied to the support of the public schools. Added to this is a State tax of 11 cents on each \$100 and 50 cents on each poll, the proceeds of State liquor licenses and dog licenses, and local taxes assessed by local authorities. From all these sources the actual revenues raised for the public schools in 1902 amounted to \$8,585,354.98. The enumeration of children of school age—6 to 21 years—was 761,801 (of whom 15,002 were col-

ored). A large number of these attended private schools, and the attendance in the public schools for the year was 423,078. The revenue was therefore in excess of \$20 to each child in attendance. There were employed 16,039 teachers, and the average number of days of school was, in townships 126, in towns 153, in cities 179, in the State at large 146. The number of public schoolhouses is 5,080 brick, 4,807 frame, 97 stone, and 3 log. The value of schoolhouses and grounds is \$22,904,607 and of school apparatus \$1,277,455. In these figures are included 704 high schools, which are a part of the public school system. There are also a large number of private schools, notably those maintained by the Roman Catholics and Lutherans for children of all ages, and a number of academies, seminaries, institutes, boarding-schools, military institutions, colleges, normal schools, etc., for intermediate education.

There are three institutions of higher education that receive aid from the State, Indiana University at Bloomington, the State Normal School at Terre Haute, and

Purdue University at Lafayette. Indiana University has an income of about \$125,000 derived from a State tax levy and the interest on an endowment fund of \$600,000 raised by State taxation. It had 1,285 students in 1902. The State Normal is also supported by a State levy, and the city of Terre Haute pays one half the expense of keeping the buildings in repair. It has 1,406 students. Purdue has an income of \$150,000 derived from State tax levy and interest on endowments, and including \$57,000 paid to it annually by the United States government as an agricultural school. It has 1,180 students.

Among the private institutions for higher education the more important are Wabash College (Presbyterian), University of Notre Dame and St. Meinrad's College (Roman Catholic), DePauw University (Methodist), Earlham College (Society of Friends), Franklin College (Baptist), Hanover College (Presbyterian), Northern Indiana Normal (non-sectarian), Winona Technical Institute (non-sectarian), and the University of Indianapolis.

The last named was formed by the union of Butler College (Christian) with the Medical College of Indiana, the Indiana Dental College, and the Indiana Law School, all of which are located at Indianapolis.

An important branch of educational work in Indiana is the development of libraries. A feature of the school system adopted in 1852 was the establishment of a free public library in each township in the State. The State expended \$273,000 for books, and the system was received with great public favor, but no provision was made for maintaining or increasing the libraries, and in the pressure of the war times they were allowed very generally to fall into ruin. To some extent these have been replaced as school adjuncts by the libraries of the Young People's Reading Circle, which are found at many of the schoolhouses of the State. These libraries in 1902 contained 436,151 volumes. There has also been a notable development of town and city libraries, 28 towns having accepted donations from Andrew Carnegie, aggregating \$660,000,

agreeing to maintain libraries in the buildings thus provided. There are 25 others that are maintaining libraries in buildings provided by themselves. The general supervision of library work is lodged in the Public Library Commission, which has charge of a system of traveling libraries furnished by the State. It also maintains a school for the training of librarians engaged in the work in Indiana.

The principal religious denominations of Indiana in the order of their strength are the Methodists, Roman Catholics, Disciples or Christians, Baptists, Presbyterians, United Brethren, and Lutherans.

The State maintains 9 charitable and 4 penal institutions, at an annual cost of over \$1,500,000. Of the former, 4 are hospitals for the insane, located respectively at Indianapolis, Logansport, Richmond and Evansville. On Oct. 31, 1902, these had 4,039 inmates. The annual cost of maintenance was \$649,834.54, or \$173.79 per capita. The other charit-

able institutions are the Institution for the Blind, Indianapolis, inmates 127, per capita cost \$276.40; Institution for the Deaf, Indianapolis, inmates 318, per capita cost \$231.66; Soldiers and Sailors' Orphans' Home, Knightstown, inmates 603, per capita cost \$174.52; Soldiers' Home, Lafayette, inmates 739, per capita cost \$167.30; School for Feeble-Minded, Ft. Wayne, inmates 318, per capita cost \$127.05. The correctional institutions are the State Prison, Michigan City, inmates 796, per capita cost \$133.32, earnings \$53,395.86; Indiana Reformatory, Jeffersonville, inmates 923, per capita cost \$130.68, earnings \$62,350.67; Reform School for Boys, Plainfield, inmates 531, per capita cost \$122.13, earnings \$298.91; Industrial School for Girls and Women's Prison, Indianapolis, inmates 52 women and 175 girls, per capita cost \$191.55, earnings \$1,436.69. At the legislative session of 1903 a law was passed for the division of the last named institution and the establishment of a new Industrial School for Girls. The State has the convict-contract-labor system, but efforts

have been made to abolish it, and the legislature of 1903 provided for a commission to investigate and report on the subject. The convict labor is all done within the prisons. The State has the indeterminate sentence system with commutation of time for good behavior. In addition to the State institutions each county maintains a poor asylum. In these, and the Marion County asylum for the incurable insane, there were on Aug. 31, 1902, 3,046 inmates, of whom 1,975 were men and 1,071 women. Of these inmates 518 were classed as insane, and 889 as feeble-minded. There are in the State 46 orphans' homes, in which there were on Oct. 31, 1902, 1,565 inmates, of whom 1,025 were boys and 540 girls. At the same date the Board of State Charities reported 811 orphan children maintained in private homes, without public expense.

The elective State offices are held for periods of 2 years, with eligibility restricted to 4 years in any period of 6 years, except as to the governor, lieutenant-governor, and geologist, whose

terms are 4 years. No one is eligible to the office of governor or lieutenant-governor for more than 4 years in any period of 8 years.

State Government. The governor's salary is \$5,000, with an allowance

of \$1,800 for house rent. The governor's veto power extends to all laws passed by the legislature, but the veto may be overthrown by a majority vote in both Houses. The legislature meets once in 2 years, and may be called in special session by the governor; regular sessions are limited to 60 days and special sessions to 40 days. The Senate is composed of 50 members elected for 4 years each, and the House of 100 members elected for 2 years each. The members receive \$6 a day while in session, and \$5 for each 25 miles traveled in reaching the capital and returning home. The State is required to be re-districted for legislative purposes every 6 years. The present Constitution was adopted in 1851, and is very generally considered unsatisfactory, especially as to legislative representation, and the location of the appointing power. It can be

amended only by the majority vote of both Houses of two consecutive legislatures, followed by a majority vote of the electors of the State.

Congressional Representation.

The State has 13 representatives in Congress.

The population of Indiana territory in 1800 was 5,641, but only about 2,500 of this was within the boundaries of the State. In 1810 the population of the territory, with practically the same boundaries as the State, was 24,520. A territorial census taken in 1815 showed 63,897 inhabitants. After the admission of the State the census returns were as follows: 1820, 147,178; 1830, 343,031; 1840, 685,866; 1850, 988,416; 1860, 1,350,428; 1870, 1,680,637; 1880, 1,978,301; 1890, 2,192,404; 1900, 2,516,462. Of the population in 1900, 142,121 were foreign born, and 57,505 were negroes. The tendency of the negroes is to gather in the cities, more than one fourth of the entire number being found in Indianapolis, and an eighth at Evansville.

INDIANA.

The State has 92 counties, whose names
and county-seats are as follows:

Adams, Decatur.	Madison, Anderson.
Allen, Ft. Wayne.	Marion, Indianapolis.
Bartholomew, Columbus.	Marshall, Plymouth.
Benton, Fowler.	Martin, Shoals.
Blackford, Hartford City.	Miami, Peru.
Boone, Lebanon.	Monroe, Bloomington.
Brown, Nashville.	Montgomery, Crawfordsville.
Carroll, Delphi.	Morgan, Martinsville.
Cass, Logansport.	Newton, Kentland.
Clark, Jeffersonville.	Noble, Albion.
Clay, Brazil.	Ohio, Rising Sun.
Clinton, Frankfort.	Orange, Paoli.
Crawford, English.	Owen, Spencer.
Daviess, Washington.	Parke, Rockville.
Dearborn, Lawrenceburg.	Perry, Cannelton.
Decatur, Greensburg.	Pike, Petersburg.
Dekalb, Auburn.	Porter, Valparaiso.
Delaware, Muncie.	Posey, Mt. Vernon.
Dubois, Jasper.	Pulaski, Winamac.
Elkhart, Goshen.	Putnam, Greencastle.
Fayette, Connersville.	Randolph, Winchester.
Floyd, New Albany.	Ripley, Versailles.
Fountain, Covington.	Rush, Rushville.
Franklin, Brookville.	Scott, Scottsburg.
Fulton, Rochester.	Shelby, Shelbyville.
Gibson, Princeton.	Spencer, Rockport.
Grant, Marion.	Starke, Knox.
Greene, Bloomfield.	Steuben, Angola.
Hamilton, Noblesville.	St. Joseph, South Bend.
Hancock, Greenfield.	Sullivan, Sullivan.
Harrison, Corydon.	Switzerland, Vevay.
Hendricks, Danville.	Tippecanoe, Lafayette.
Henry, Newcastle.	Tipton, Tipton.
Howard, Kokomo.	Union, Liberty.
Huntington, Huntington.	Vanderburg, Evansville.
Jackson, Brownstown.	Vermilion, Newport.
Jasper, Rensselaer.	Vigo, Terre Haute.
Jay, Portland.	Wabash, Wabash.
Jefferson, Madison.	Warren, Williamsport.
Jennings, Vernon.	Warrick, Boonville.
Johnson, Franklin.	Washington, Salem.
Knox, Vincennes.	Wayne, Richmond.
Kosciusko, Warsaw.	Wells, Bluffton.
Lagrange, Lagrange.	White, Monticello.
Lake, Crown Point.	Whitley, Columbia City.
Laporte, Laporte.	
Lawrence, Bedford.	

The largest city in Indiana is the capital, Indianapolis, with a population (1900) of 169,164. Next in size are Evansville (59,007), Ft. Wayne (45,115), Terre Haute

(36,673), and South Bend (35,999). Each of these cities has a charter specially made for it, though under guise of a **Chief Cities.** general law. These charters are of recent creation—the oldest made in 1891—and establish advanced forms of city government. Of cities of secondary importance may be named Muncie (20,942), New Albany (20,628), Anderson (20,178), Richmond (18,226), Lafayette (18,116), Marion (17,337), Logansport (16,204), and Elkhart (15,184). There were in all 80 cities and 330 incorporated towns in the State in 1901.

The first-known visits of white men to Indiana were those of Sieur de la Salle, who followed the Ohio River **History.** along its southern boundary in 1669-70, and crossed its northwestern corner by way of the St. Josephs-Kankakee portage in 1671. There were no Indians living below the Wabash at that time, and probably not many in the northern part of the State, but those there were La Salle induced to join his confederacy against the Iroquois, and they

all removed to the Illinois River, leaving Indiana practically uninhabited. After some years they began moving to the East, reaching Detroit by 1712, and shortly afterward located at points along the Maumee and Wabash rivers. The Delawares, who afterward lived in the central part of the State, on White River, came there about 1750. It is probable that the French first placed representatives at the Indian villages near the site of Ft. Wayne, and next about 1720, at Ouiatenon—on the north side of the Wabash just below Lafayette—and that there were stockade forts at these places, but there is nothing to indicate a permanent settlement at either place. The post at Vincennes was established in 1731, largely under the influence of Father DeBeaubois, a Jesuit who had been stationed at Kaskaskia. Families located there soon afterward, and it remained a permanent settlement, though there is but one land grant recorded of date prior to 1736. The French posts were small and unimportant, and the history of the region under French and British rule presents no very striking

features. In 1778 Vincennes was surrendered to representatives of Gen. George Rogers Clark, and the Wabash County was brought under American control. A recapture by the British was followed by a second taking by Clark in 1779. The region was ceded to the United States by the treaty of 1783, and was included in the territory northwest of the Ohio River, by the ordinance of 1787. It was thus governed until 1800, when the Indiana Territory was formed, including all of the Northwest Territory except Ohio. From Indiana Territory, Michigan Territory was cut off in 1805, and Illinois Territory in 1809, leaving it with practically the present State boundaries. By act of Congress of April 19, 1816, Indiana was authorized to form a State government, and the State was formally admitted by act of Dec. 11, 1816. In the meantime a State Constitution had been adopted on June 29; State officials had been elected, and the State government had been actually inaugurated on November 7.

There were almost continuous Indian troubles in the Ohio valley from 1788 to

1795, when, after Gen. Wayne's successful expedition, peace was made at Fort Greenville. After that date the American immigration began, and there was no material trouble with Indians until the formation of Tecumseh's confederacy in 1811. The Indians were overwhelmed at the battle of Tippecanoe on November 7 of that year, by the troops under Gen. Harrison, and sued for peace, but when the war with England came on there were Indian hostilities of minor importance continuing until the close of the war in 1815. After that year there was a gradual extinction of Indian titles, the Indians being concentrated in the northern part of the State and finally removed west of the Mississippi. The last removals occurred in 1836 and 1838.

The sobriquet "Hoosier," commonly used to designate the State and its people, was first applied to them about 1830. It was not coined for that purpose, as is commonly supposed, but was a slang word signifying an uncouth rustic, which was in common use in the South at that time, and is still commonly used there in that sense.

The history of the State after its admission was chiefly that of peaceful development—clearing lands, opening roads, building towns and cities, and establishing industries. The most notable feature was the disastrous internal improvement enterprise on which the State entered in 1836. It contemplated transportation routes on 7 main lines, involving the construction of 1,289 miles of railroads and canals. That the routes were fairly well chosen is shown by the fact that they are now practically all occupied by successful railroad lines. The chief defect was that the improvements were mostly high-line canals, and the breaks in these before completion caused such great damage that the estimated cost was enormously increased. The financial panic of 1837 added to the difficulties, and the effects of this were aggravated by the general entering of the States on such enterprises on borrowed capital. The total debts of the several States swelled from about \$13,000,000 in 1830 to \$207,894,613 in 1842. In 1839 Indiana was unable to realize on the sales of her bonds, and was forced to

default interest on those already issued. The canals and roads being unfinished, did not furnish the revenues anticipated. Compromises were effected by which the work done was turned over to creditors, but the State was left with a debt of about \$10,000,000 without any property to represent it. In all, Indiana built 453 miles of canals, at a cost of \$7,725,262, all of which are now abandoned so far as transportation is concerned. But under private management, and more favorable conditions, the transportation lines developed rapidly, and in 1849 the one railroad originally contemplated was paying $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. dividends on its stock. In 1860 there were 2,126 miles of railroads in successful operation in the State.

In the war with Mexico, Indiana furnished troops to the number of 4,470. Of these there were killed and wounded 183, and died of other causes 218. When the Civil War began the State occupied an important position, and its resources were utilized to the uttermost by its war governor, Oliver P. Morton. The State furnished 196,363 men for the War, and 784

paid for exemption; or in other words supplied 74.3 per cent. of her total population capable of bearing arms, by the census of 1860. Only one State in the Union surpassed or equaled this record, Delaware being credited with 74.8 per cent. of her military population. But of the supply credited to Delaware nearly one tenth was in money commutation for exemption, and nearly one tenth of the men in actual service were colored. On the basis of white troops furnished for 3 years or more of service, Indiana supplied 57 per cent. of her military population of 1860, and on this basis was surpassed only by Kansas, which is credited with 59.4 per cent. Of the troops sent by Indiana 7,243 were killed or mortally wounded in battle, and 19,429 died of other causes, making a total death loss of over 13 per cent. of all troops furnished. One feature of the War period in Indiana, and some adjoining States, was the formation of secret treasonable societies known as Knights of the Golden Circle, and later Sons of Liberty. These attracted much attention at the time, and much comment

later, but in reality they were neither extensive nor dangerous. They were organized with a system of "circles within circles," with mysterious rites and blood-curdling oaths, but the masses of the members understood that they were merely for mutual protection, and the treasonable designs were affairs of the inner circles. Among their members there were a number of government detectives who kept the authorities informed as to every movement, and at the final exposure the chief witness for the government was Felix Stidgers, a detective who had become so prominent in the order that he was made "Grand Secretary for Kentucky," and knew all of the secrets of the order. As is aptly stated by Gov. Morton's biographer, "No one can read the history of the secret organizations in Indiana and not feel that, widespread as they were, there was not an instant in which they were not securely within the grasp of the war governor." After the War Indiana became peculiarly a political battleground. In 1868 the Republicans elected Conrad Baker governor by less

than 1,000 plurality, and in 1872 the Democrats elected Thomas A. Hendricks to that office by the narrow plurality of 1,148, although Gen. Grant received the vote of the State for President. After 1872 neither party carried the State at two consecutive Presidential elections until after 1896, and neither carried it by a majority of all the votes cast, or by a plurality of as much as 20,000. One result of this close balance has been an improvement in State legislation, the Democrats leading in the legislature of 1889, which they held although they had lost the State offices and the Presidential vote of the State in the preceding year. Indiana in that year adopted the Australian ballot system, being the second State in the Union to do so, with some improvements that have been extensively copied. Other notable reform laws are a school-book law that has made a large reduction in the cost of books used in the common schools; a Board of State Charities law that has greatly improved the charitable and penal institutions of the State; a fee and salary law putting

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officials on salaries and requiring the payment of all fees into the public treasuries; a compulsory education law; laws for the encouragement of public libraries; laws for the incorporation of cities which provide the most modern modes of city government; laws for the reform of county and township government providing supervisory boards to which local legislation is entrusted; and a tax law that has been largely effective in equalizing taxation and has been copied elsewhere. Another feature of Indiana's development that has attracted notice in later years is its production of native writers of poetry and fiction. Among the former may be named Joaquin Miller, John Hay, John James Piatt and James Whitcomb Riley; among the latter Gen. Lew Wallace, Maurice Thompson, Edward Eggleston, Charles Major, Meredith Nicholson, Booth Tarkington and Annie Fellows Johnston. These with lesser lights and some writers of note in other lines form a notable group for a commonwealth whose settlement and development have occurred in little more than a century.

JACOB PIATT DUNN,
Secretary Indiana Historical Society.

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